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Approved For Release

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#5051  
new file

CABLE ADDRESS

5X1A

TELEPHONE

Declass Review by NIMA/DOD

November 30, 1964

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Chief, Procurement Division  
2430 E Street, N.W.  
Washington 25, D. C.

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Attn: [REDACTED]

Gentlemen:

Reference to your interest in the AP/2 plotting system, it would seem to me that to bring the system to its optimum performance for your particular needs it would be wise to combine in with the AP/2 some of the advantages the AP/C now has.

Specifically I would recommend that the AP/2 have added to it the facility for measuring direct vector distances in the stereo model by merely depressing a button on the control panel. Another recommendation would be to replace the synchro motors on the coordinatograph with servo motors. This would allow the coordinatograph to be driven directly by the computer as an automatic X-Y plotting system. Another advantage accruing from using servos would be to permit a highly improved digital type Veltropolo to be used on the instrument. At this time the AP/C has this feature but the AP/2's do not. This is due to the fact that the AP/C was developed after the AP/2 and we had the advantage of additional knowledge before the design was completed. The digital Veltropolo allows exact angular values to be laid off in the stereo model which is an advantage under certain conditions.

Another feature which I strongly recommend is a high speed tape input to the computer. The cost of this development is relatively insignificant compared with the advantages to be obtained. And, finally, although our present customers have not seen fit to call for it, I feel that a hard copy typed output is very desirable. Therefore, a Flexo-writer or other type of automatic typewriter should be added as an additional output in addition to the existing punch tape output which we now provide with the AP/2's.

All these features mentioned above would bring the AP/2 up to optimum performance and would provide increased versatility. Naturally some development would be required although to my mind the necessary efforts would be relatively small when compared to the advantages to be gained, however, time wise and money wise this should not be very great.

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I would be pleased to hear your thoughts on the subject.

Sincerely yours,

Executive Vice President

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SJF:en